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Dated: September 17, 2004 Signature: *Diane R. Lytle*

(Diane R. Lytle)

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SEP 17 2004

Docket No.: 65765-0037  
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Randy Stratman et al.

Application No.: 10/708,435

Confirmation No.: 2434

Filed: March 3, 2004

Art Unit: N/A

For: ORIFICE SEALING PHYSICAL BARRIER

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits as far as is known to the undersigned (37 CFR 1.97(b)(3)).

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing

Application No.: 10/708,435

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of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 18-0013, under Order No. 65765-0037. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: September 17, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Glenn E. Forbis

Registration No.: 40,610

RADER, FISHMAN &amp; GRAUER PLLC

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PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	10/708,435-Conf. #2434
				Filing Date	March 3, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Randy Stratman
				Art Unit	N/A
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	65765-0037

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	AA	US-3,760,031-B1	09-18-1973	Sato et al.	
	AB	US-4,198,369-B1	04-15-1980	Yoshikawa et al.	
	AC	US-4,363,420-B1	12-14-1982	Andrews	
	AD	US-4,588,105-B1	05-13-1986	Schmitz et al.	
	AE	US-5,267,667-B1	12-07-1993	Cozzani	
	AF	US-6,024,190-B1	02-15-2000	Ritzema	
	AG	US-5,959,264-B1	09-28-1999	Bruck et al.	
	AH	US-5,851,626-B1	12-22-1998	McCorry et al.	
	AI	US-5,702,133-B1	12-30-1997	Pavur et al.	
	AJ	US-5,577,740-B1	11-26-1996	Purdom	
	AK	US-5,558,346-B1	09-24-1996	Hartery	
	AL	US-5,505,324-B1	04-09-1996	Danico	
	AM	US-5,483,028-B1	01-09-1996	Holwerda	
	AN	US-5,224,624-B1	07-06-1993	Kraus	
	AO	US-4,588,104-B1	05-13-1986	Danico	
	AP	US-4,463,870-B1	08-07-1984	Coburn, Jr. et al.	
	AQ	US-4,391,384-B1	07-05-1983	Moore, III et al.	
	AR	US-4,290,536-B1	09-22-1981	Morel	
	AS	US-3,851,794-B1	12-03-1974	Hehl	
	AT	US-6,319,969-B1	11/2001	Walther et al.	
	AU	US-6,319,436-B1	11/2001	Jaeger et al.	
	AV	US-4,824,726-B1	04/1989	Closson, Jr.	
	AW	US-4,761,319-B1	08/1988	Kraus et al.	
	AX	US-4,374,687-B1	02/1983	Yamamoto, Kaname	
	AY	US-5,731,069-B1	03/1998	Delle Donne et al.	
	AZ	US-4,494,671-B1	01/1985	Moore et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Y <sup>4</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	BA	DE-1,354,973-A1	06-05-1974	Klaus		
	BB	DE-19640835A-A1	04-09-1998	Bockenheimer		
	BC	DE-19745701A-A1	04-22-1999	Gerecke et al.		
	BD	DE-2554078A-A1	06-08-1977	Hose, et al.		
	BE	FR-2781496A-A1	01-28-2000	Rene et al.		
	BF	EP-0911132 A2-A2	04/1999	Jaeger et al.		

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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SEP 17 2004**FAX TRANSMISSION****DATE:** September 17, 2004**PTO IDENTIFIER:** Application Number 10/708,435-Conf. #2434  
Patent Number**Inventor:** Randy Stratman et al.**MESSAGE TO:** US Patent and Trademark Office**FAX NUMBER:** (703) 872-9306**FROM:** RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC

Glenn E. Forbis

**PHONE:** (248) 594-0636**Attorney Dkt. #:** 65765-0037**PAGES (Including Cover Sheet):** 6**CONTENTS:** Transmittal;  
Information Disclosure Statement; and  
PTO SB-08.

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PTO/SB/97 (12-97)

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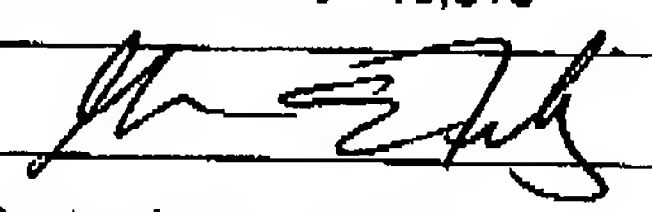
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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/708,435-Conf. #2434
	Filing Date	March 3, 2004
	First Named Inventor	Randy Stratman
	Art Unit	N/A
	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number 65765-0037

**ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)**

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Technology Center (TC) <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<b>Remarks</b>		

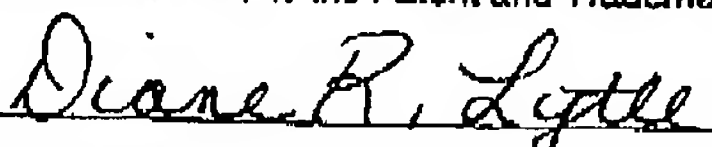
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Signature	
Date	September 17, 2004

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